



PARALLEL SESSION 3.5

MAKING GLOBAL TRADE POLICIES WORK FOR UHC

| BACKGROUND

Global trends in trade policies is currently a hot political issue across the world and becoming an ever more important 'megatrend' of relevance to the achievement of Universal Health Coverage. The changing landscape of global, regional, and bilateral trade agreements and practices has important implications for achieving SDG3 in enabling, or limiting, governments' strategies to pursue policy coherence, financing and good governance of the health services, and ensuring access to affordable medicines.

Current global politics of looming trade wars and sanctions against some countries can have a profound impact on the supply of life saving health commodities. This is a sensitive topic indeed. But it must be openly and candidly discussed as a challenge to the achievement of UHC in countries around the world.

This session will provide an overview of key trade policy issues and experiences that are relevant for all countries in their efforts to achieve or maintain UHC. It will focus on case studies on risks and opportunities for health promotion - including regulating health-harming industries and practices - and trade in health commodities of direct relevance to UHC. It will then focus on strategies for promoting innovation and access to affordable and quality medicines and other health products and technologies for all countries and people, in the spirit of the 2030 Agenda of Leaving No One Behind.

| OBJECTIVES

The objective of this session is to spotlight the opportunities and challenges of recent trends in trade policies and practices on countries' efforts to achieve or maintain UHC; to increase visibility about the risk and benefits involved, share lessons learnt, and to discuss concrete actions that must be taken in the interest of the lives of people.



Panelist / Panelist

Carlos Correa

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Prof. Carlos María Correa of Argentina is the Executive Director of the South Centre. He began his term as South Centre Executive Director on 1 July 2018. Prior to this, he was the Special Advisor on Trade and Intellectual Property of the South Centre. Prof. Correa is a renowned international authority on intellectual property and technology issues.

Prof. Correa has worked with the Argentine government and has been the Director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies on Industrial Property and Economics (CEIDIE) at the Law Faculty of the University of Buenos Aires. He was a member of the UK Commission on Intellectual Property, of the Commission on Intellectual Property, Innovation and Public Health established by the World Health Assembly and of the FAO Panel of Eminent Experts on Ethics in Food and Agriculture.

He has been a visiting professor in post-graduate courses of several universities and consultant to various regional and international organizations. He has advised several governments on intellectual property, innovation policy and public health. He is the author of several books and numerous articles.

Prof. Correa is both a lawyer and economist from the University of Buenos Aires and holds a PhD in Law from the University of Buenos Aires.